Appl. No. 09/585,820 Amdt. Dated April 27, 2004 Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-15 (canceled)

- 16. (Previously presented) A method of analyzing blood in a reverse test, comprising:
 - (a) admixing a sample of blood with reagent red blood cells bearing A antigen and with reagent red blood cells bearing B antigen wherein such admixing is performed in a single column;
 - (b) allowing the admixture to agglutinate;
 - (c) subjecting the admixture to visual or automated computerized imaging analysis; and
 - (d) analyzing the visual or automated computerized imaging analysis to determine ABO reverse type.

Claims 17-19 (canceled)

20. (original) The method of claim 16 wherein one group of reagent red blood cells of step (a) are stained.

Claim 21 (canceled)

- 22. (original) The method of claim 29 wherein the column agglutination technology is a column agglutination test reaction and separation vessel in cassette form.
- 23. (original) The method of Claim 22 wherein an automated computerized imaging system is employed to interpret an agglutination result.

Claims 24-28 (canceled)

29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 20 wherein the single [[test]] column subjected to visual or automated computerized imaging analysis is selected from

Appl. No. 09/585,820 . Amdt. Dated April 27, 2004 Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2003

the group consisting of tube[[, microplate, slide, slide platform]] and column agglutination technology.

30. (Canceled)

- 31. (Currently amended) A method of simultaneous [[blood]] ABO antibody testing of a blood sample using two cell populations, comprising:
 - (a) admixing a sample of blood with a first group of reagent red blood cells bearing a first antigen and a second group of reagent red blood cells bearing a second antigen, wherein such admixing is performed in a single column;
 - (b) allowing the admixture to agglutinate;
 - (c) subjecting the admixture to visual or automated computerized imaging analysis; and
 - (d) analyzing the visual or automated computerized imaging analysis to determine [[reverse]] ABO type.
- 32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein one group of reagent red blood cells of step (a) are stained.
- 33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 32 wherein the single [[test]] column subjected to visual or automated computerized imaging analysis is selected from the group consisting of tube[[, microplate, slide, slide platform and]] column agglutination technology.
- 34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 33 wherein the column agglutination technology is a column agglutination test reaction and separation vessel in cassette form.

Appl. No. 09/585,820

Amdt. Dated April 27, 2004

Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2003

- 35. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 34 wherein an automated computerized imaging system is employed to interpret an agglutination result.
- 36. (Currently amended) A method of performing an antibody test on a sample of blood in a single column comprising:
 - (a) admixing a sample of blood with reagent red blood cells bearing a first antigen and reagent red blood cells bearing a second antigen, wherein one of the populations of red blood cells is stained;
 - (b) allowing the admixture to agglutinate;
 - (c) subjecting the admixture to visual or automated computerized imaging analysis; and
- (d) detecting and identifying the antibody; wherein steps (a) and (b) are performed in a single column.
- 37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 36 wherein the sample of blood is serum or plasma.
- 38. (Canceled)
- 39. (Currently amended) The method of claim 38 wherein the single [[test]] <u>column</u> subjected to visual or automated computerized imaging analysis is selected from the group consisting of tube[[, microplate, slide, slide platform]] and column agglutination technology.
- 40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 39 wherein the column agglutination technology is a column agglutination test reaction and separation vessel in cassette form.

Appl. No. 09/585,820 Amdt. Dated April 27, 2004 Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2003

- 41. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 40 wherein an automated computerized imaging system is employed to interpret an agglutination result.
- blood analysis (Currently amended) kit for 42. Α performing an antibody test in a single column comprising:
 - (a) a container having therein a first population of reagent red blood cells bearing a first antigen and a second population of reagent red blood cells bearing a second antigen, wherein one of the populations of reagent red blood cells is stained;
 - (b) reaction means for carrying out the antibody test, wherein said reaction means consists of a tube or column agglutination reaction vessel; and
 - (c) instructions for performing the antibody test in a single column, in order to detect and identify an antibody which is the subject of the antibody test, wherein the column is subjected to visual or automated computerized imaging analysis.
- 43. (Previously presented) The kit of claim 42 wherein the reagent red blood cells are selected from the group consisting of groups A1, A2, B, O, D, C, E, c, e, M, N, S, s, P1, Lea, Leb, K, k, Jsa, Fya, Fyb, Jka, Jkb, Lua, and Lub.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently amended) The kit of claim [[44]] 43 wherein the reaction means of carrying out the antibody test is a column agglutination test reaction vessel.

Appl. No. 09/585,820 . Amdt. Dated April 27, 2004 Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2003

- 46. (Currently amended) A blood analysis kit for performing a reverse ABO blood type in a single column comprising:
 - (a) a container having therein a first population of reagent red blood cells bearing group A antigen and a second population of reagent red blood cells bearing B antigen, wherein one of the populations of reagent red blood cells is stained;
 - (b) reaction means for carrying out the reverse ABO blood type, wherein said reaction means consists of a tube or column agglutination reaction vessel; and
 - (c) instructions for performing the reverse ABO blood type in a single column, wherein the column is subjected to visual or automated computerized imaging analysis.
- 47. (Canceled)
- 48. (Canceled)
- 49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the sample of blood is serum or plasma.
- 50. (Canceled)
- 51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 31 wherein the sample of blood is serum or plasma.